

Laurier Upholding Liberal Ideal In Opposing Canadian Conscription

Leader Called Provincial in Efforts to Defeat Draft Bill,
Which Would Replenish Armies—Govern-
ment Would Lose Referendum

By A. CASTELL HOPKINS, F. S. S.,
F. R. G. S.

Of the seemingly impossible things
performed by the world war for the
purpose of men for military purposes
in Great Britain, and now in Canada,
one of the most extraordinary.
The almost fanatical devotion of the
average Englishman to the idea of per-
sonal liberty has been multiplied and
multiplied in Canada during many
years of the lifetime of the public in
this country. The absolute immunity from
the danger of war, by irresponsible
as to the policy of the power in
London which made peace or war for
the world. There has been ignorance
of world issues which to the man on the
street in London, Paris, Berlin or St.
Petersburg were commonplaces, and a
national narrowness of vision and sen-
sationalism which was, and is, called Na-
tionalism, but was, and is, thousands of
miles of thought away from the true
national spirit.

Canada Owe Britain Debt

The latter would have said with
truth that it owed Britain the debt of
a hundred-year-old child to its mother
country, a debt of military protection,
of a debt of naval guardianship, of
a debt of support totaling \$2,000,000,000
of British money from British taxpayers
since the days of Wolfe; the debt of
independence from a great bordering
nation whose pressure in times of
jealous hostility would otherwise have
been fatal and in days of peaceful per-
secution would have been equally per-
nicious with a people of similar language
and institutions if it had not been for
British power and connection.

This real nationalism dominates
Canada outside of Quebec to-day and is
behind the conscription policy, as it is
behind the recruiting of 400,000 men, or
nearly 10 per cent of the English popu-
lation of Canada. The spurious Na-
tionalism is represented by French-
Canadians such as Bourassa and La-
Salle and by some politicians and
some private citizens without a full
sense of world responsibility, of em-
pire unity, or of Canada as a British
nation standing upon its own feet, do-
ing its duty loyally and frankly and
dropping the mantle of Colonial child-
hood in the face of a vast emergency.
It is this spirit which stands opposed
to conscription.

To any one who knows Canada the
situation is most natural. Back of the
fundamental matter of obligation to the
empire in its world relations, policy
must be based on the one side, or of ob-
ligation and duty purely to Canada and
as well on the other, is the ever pres-
ent party spirit.

Parties Not Badly Split

When Sir John Macdonald took office
last week, the Minister of the Interior
was already celebrating its fifteenth an-
niversary. He did so with the hope of
getting these provinces away from the
stagnant party feeling of small commu-
nities, the narrowest of tiny states.
He found a coalition as Sir Robert
Borden has been trying to do to-day in
the face of far greater issues than
threatened Canada in the troubled
days of 1867-68. But the Macdonald
Union became a fusion, and parties
were simply reconstructed with old
names with new policies. To-day par-
tisanism is as strong as it ever was
in many minds; it may yet prove not
to be so amongst the mass of the
people, and in the expectation that the
situation of a difficult problem. Upon
the reciprocity issue in 1911 party
lines were greatly broken; in Parliament
to-day upon the conscription issue men
of the Liberal and Conservative parties
and High Tories and G. E. B. Mac-
donald have broken away from their
party.

Events have been leading up steadily
to this situation. Volunteers in the
last months of 1914 overpowered
every available source of training,
equipment, preparation; during 1915
they ran 500 a day, in the first half
of 1916 1,000 a day, and tapered down
to 500 a day, and then 300 a day at its
close. In 1916, 1917, and 1918, the
Premier's call for 500,000 men, or 30
per cent of the eligible population, was
met. Then it was seen to be
difficult, and finally impossible. Regu-
lation of the people for all purposes
was then under no circumstances
and system not very complete, while
calls for conscription, in a country
where the word had been taboo from
a earliest national inception, were in-
cessant.

Borden Declared for Draft

Well known men like Bishops Far-
thing and Williams, of the Church of
England; Sir H. J. Macdonald, of Wis-
consin; C. H. Tupper, of Vancouver;
J. P. Phelan, of Victoria; J. P. Bell,
of Hamilton; Sir William Peter-
son, of Montreal; and Colonel G. T.
Mason, of Toronto, demanded it, while
leading organizations everywhere,
English, French, Methodist confer-
ences, the Montreal Women's Club and
various local councils of women, Orange
lodges, etc., urged it.

The National Service Board was ap-
pointed in October to determine
through official inquiry of individual
Canadians the manner in which men
and women could at this juncture best
serve the nation. Replying to a labor
request of December 27, Sir Robert
Borden said: "You have asked for an
assurance that under no circum-
stances will conscription be undertaken
carried out. As I stated to you
in my interview, I must decline to give
any such assurance. I hope that con-
scription may not be necessary, but
it should prove the only effective
method to preserve the existence of
the state and of the institutions and
values which we enjoy. I should con-
sider it necessary and I should not he-
sitate to act accordingly."

Premier Goes to England

Early in 1916 the Premier went to
England, sat in an imperial cabinet,
and the most intimate details of war
policy, policy and requirement, and
the back and told Parliament that
conscription was needed in Canada as
in Britain and more men were an im-
mediate necessity. What he knew in de-
tail was told in confidence to the Lib-
eral leaders and every effort made to
win Sir Wilfrid Laurier to join in
a national war government. But the
Liberal leader preferred to stand by
old principles and policies and to
uphold the ideal expressed to the
Imperial Conference of October 1916.
"I state not a jot of my
feeling," he said, "reiterated in the
House of Commons and upon many a
platform of this country, that I am
a pacifist. I have always been against
war. I have always been against
the radicals and laborites of England;

but nothing was said of the fact that
the party he had adopted conscription
and denounced the mantle of vigorous
militarism.

In Parliament on June 11 Sir Robert
Borden presented his bill calling out
ten distinct classes for the purpose of
selecting 100,000 men for active ser-
vice, with the first three classes to in-
clude unmarried men of twenty to
thirty-four years and then married men
from twenty years up. In his appeal
the Premier declared that:

Premier Borden's Appeal

"There are only two alternatives—to
let our forces dwindle from four divi-
sions to three, from three to two, and
perhaps from two to one, or to bring
up by other means than an appeal for
voluntary service. That is the problem
which confronts Canada to-day.

I am in a position to assure the House
and the country that the need of rein-
forcements is urgent, insistent and im-
perative. The effort of Russia is par-
alyzed for the present—no one knows
for how long. The effort of the United
States is only at its beginning. It is
Germany's hope to win the war before
the power of the United States can be-
come effective. More than that, it is
her confident belief.
Sir Wilfrid Laurier opposed the bill
and has proposed a referendum. As to
that, a vote of the people would defeat
such a measure, as it was defeated in
Australia, where there was no solid
Quebec absolutely to insure such a re-
sult. Therefore the conscriptionist
supporters of a referendum are in a
peculiar position. The French-Canadians
in the House will vote against it and
wholly for it and against conscription;
one of them has left the Cabinet; but
the remaining Quebec member, Colonel
P. E. Blondin, has taken his public life in
his hand and is fighting for the govern-
ment's policy, as he is prepared to do
for the country in the battle line. He
has been trying to enlist. Elsewhere many
Liberals are preparing to support the
bill and are speaking against the refer-
endum.

An Able Liberal organ in Toronto—

"The Star" on June 29 put the situation
thus: "Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the French
Liberals, the French Conservatives
and the French Nationalists are
against conscription. It is not a ques-
tion of party politics with them. They
have no right to expect that they can
succeed in making it a party question
with us in Ontario."

Liberal Urges Conscription

N. W. Rowell, the Ontario Liberal
leader in provincial politics, has ad-
dressed a mass meeting at Toronto in
favor of conscription; G. P. Graham,
the Ontario Liberal leader at Ottawa,
has spoken in the House against the
Laurier policy. "The Toronto Globe,"
the chief organ of English Liberalism,
has declared (June 19) that "the emer-
gency is too real, too overwhelming, to
admit of the leisurely procedure of a
referendum. Members on both sides
of the House who believe that selective
conscription is the just and equitable
thing owe it to their convictions and
to the great cause for which Canadians
are fighting to vote for the second
reading of the measure before the
House."

After the bill has passed the Com-
mons, what will happen? There will,
for the first time in many years, be a
Conservative majority of three in the
Senate when vacancies are filled. At
present there are in that chamber eight
French-Canadians from Quebec and
three from other provinces, out of
seventy-five members, but it is prob-
able that Liberal supporters of the
measure will far outnumber any loss
the government might have from Que-
bec and elsewhere—almost all the
French members being Liberals now.
Once the bill is law there may be
small riots in Quebec. There will be
some "passive resistance," but the
sense and loyalty of the authorities and
the Church and such powerful papers
as "La Presse" will soon dominate the
situation and eliminate any passing
trouble for hot-headed Nationalists or
unthinking youths.

Vienna Rulers Fear Uprising By Bohemians

Suffering in Prague Is Intense—
Deaths Often Are Double
the Births

(Slav Press Bureau)

According to "The London Econo-
mist," an account has reached the Paris
"Temps" from Prague, by way of
Zurich, which represents the suffering
in the Bohemian capital as grave. The
brewing industry in Bohemia and Mo-
ravia had an annual output before the
war of 14,000,000 hectolitres; now it has
practically ceased to exist.

The textile industries are at a stand-
still for lack of material; clothing is
unobtainable; so is leather, and boots
which cost 20 kronen (\$4.08) three
years ago have now advanced in price
five or sixfold. In some Bohemian
towns there are deaths from tuber-
culosis; half of them are from tuber-
culosis—intensified no doubt by the
lack of fuel, fats and nourishing food.
Coal is very scarce and lighting is re-
duced to the barest minimum.

The Russian revolution was the out-
come of a food famine, and in Bohemia
the famine is even worse. The govern-
ment classes in Vienna are therefore ap-
prehensive either of a revolution or of
national collapse. During the first half
of April twenty new annual contin-
gents of recruits were called up—the
product of the fourth revision of lists
of men available for service—and a
statement was published (on the 28th
of April) that the Minister of Public
Works, without his advent, would
strike Austria-Hungary to strike a
speedy and decisive blow against her
enemies a separate peace was unavoid-
able.

Meanwhile, attempts are being made
to propitiate the Czechs by the sugges-
tion that the Emperor may be crowned
at Prague, which would mean the revival
of the ancient kingdom of Bohemia and
the establishment of that "trialism"
which was so nearly achieved in 1871.
But the Czechs are unresponsive and
have refused to make a declaration of
loyalty to the crown, partly because of
overtures to them have been accom-
panied by preparation for another po-
litical trial—this time of fourteen
Czech political leaders, of whom one is
a woman.

Czech feeling has been further exas-
perated by the deaths of two released
political prisoners, who are ascribed
to their sufferings in prison. Through-
out the war the treatment of the Czechs
has been exceptionally severe, and they
are now reaching the limit of their en-
durance.

French Rush Aid To 243 Villages Wrecked by War

American and British Civil-
ians Help in Work of
Restoration

Towns Are "Adopted"

Washington Has Made Her-
self Foster Mother to
Devastated Noyon

French Front, June 28 (correspon-
dence of The Associated Press).—
American, French and British civilians
are working in closest cooperation with
the French military and civil authori-
ties in restoring the lands devastated
by the Germans when they hurriedly
quit the lines they had held for two
years from Noyon to the Somme. The
Associated Press correspondent, after
visiting Noyon, the adopted daughter
of Washington, went through the en-
tire district and observed what was
being done.

Others have followed the example of
the United States capital and have de-
voted their energies to the succor of
particular localities. For instance, the
American Fund for French Wounded
has discarded its original idea and
taken full charge of the hamlet of
Behucourt, with its 125 remaining in-
habitants, all of whom were in the
greatest distress. American women
have seen to it that all these poor
people are provided with their most
necessary requirements in the way of
food and clothing.

The Comtesse de Chabannes la Palice
has taken to herself the hamlet of
Maucourt, of which only heaps of
bricks and stones remain, and will re-
build it.

Rothschild Opens Depot

Dr. Baron Henri de Rothschild has
opened a food and clothing depot at
Noyon, to which he sends everything
necessary to keep life going in any
applicant in any part of the afflicted
district.

All this, however, is but a drop in
the ocean when it is realized that there
are 243 villages and hamlets spread
over the French zone alone of the coun-
try which the Germans before their re-
treat tried to make into a desert. One
hundred of these small communities
are now just heaps of stones and
bricks, without one habitable room or
cellar among them, while of the re-
maining one-third were partly demolished
and the rest only slightly damaged.

In this region 35,000 old men and
women and young children under fif-
teen years were left without shelter or
food by the Germans. Some 12,000 of
these were evacuated immediately to
the interior of France, where a pro-
portion of them joined their relatives.
The military authorities have grad-
ually been evacuating the rest of the
French zone, which confronts them of
providing for a large, destitute com-
munity immediately behind the lines,
where a shield of French flesh and
steel is holding back the German
advance and elsewhere almost all the
work to organize the country and its
people. The first step was to provide
food, and this was done through the
military commissariat, as there was no
means of civilian transport of supplies
from other parts of France.

Cultivation Is Started

Then came the question of putting in
cultivation again the 250,000 acres of
agricultural land comprised in the
French zone. It was late in the season,
French zone, that a practicable scheme was
formulated and put into effect. Offi-
cers of high rank were placed in charge.
The devastated country was divided
into seven sections, and each com-
posed of twenty-five communes, and each
in charge of an officer with skilled aids.
Horses were lent by the army, broken
ploughs and harrows were repaired by
motor mechanics of the army, seeds of
all kinds were procured and work on
all kinds was begun. For this manual
labor was necessary, and this was
found among the many peasants and
small farmers in the ranks.

Thirty American tractors were found
lying idle in depot near the front in the
Stricken district, and these were trans-
ported to the places where they could
be most useful and put to work. The
labor was dangerous owing to the pres-
ence of the German shells under the sur-
face of the fields, but only one acci-
dent has occurred from this cause.

In this way about 4,000 acres have
been ploughed and sown with grain
and grass and another 2,500 acres
ploughed and cleared of weeds, while
with the help of American, English and
French donors, every family has been
provided with seeds and roots to form
a truck garden, with the result that
sufficient produce is expected to make
the community self-supporting.

The Germans had also cultivated a
considerable tract of land and sown it
with rye, which they tried to destroy
by their hurried departure, but before
with only partial success, for at least
2,500 acres will produce crops this
season.

In the meantime houses are being
repaired where possible and temporary
shacks erected where no habitation
exists. Schools have been opened, mil-
itary doctors attend the sick, a postal
service has begun, and so far as pos-
sible life is being made endurable for
the thousands who suffered so much
during the German occupation and
virtually lost everything they pos-
sessed when the invaders departed.

Find New Strindberg Works

Five Posthumous Volumes
Now Being Printed

(Correspondence of The Associated Press)
Stockholm, June 25.—The selection
and arrangement of the late August
Strindberg's works has proceeded so far
that preparations have now been nearly
completed for the printing. The re-
sult will be a considerable addition to
the knowledge of the Swedish author's
works. The manuscripts found known
works will compose five volumes. The
first volume will contain three complete
dramas and a number of dramatic frag-
ments. The second volume will contain
novels, short narratives and a number
of sketches which are said to throw an
intimate light on Strindberg.

The last three volumes will show
Strindberg in a more historical and phi-
losophical light, and the fourth and fifth
will be devoted to the author's excu-
sions into the field of occultism and
natural philosophy.

Long Island Yachtsmen Turn Over Boats to Government

Sag Harbor, Oyster
Bay and Amityville
Give Up Regattas

A fleet of pleasure turned over-night
into a fleet of patriotism, the yachts
and motor boats of Long Island have
answered the call to coast defence.

Scores of them have already been
accepted for government service, and
have become a part of various mos-
quito fleets. Others are being in-
spected at present to make sure that
they conform to requirements, and
hundreds of others are awaiting in-
spection. With guns up fore by the
steering wheels, and guns to aft where
holiday-mood men and women used to
sit in the wicker chairs, these boats
will soon patrol the coast, their light-
hearted past forgotten in the country's
need. There is not a slacker yacht
among them.

So many of the members of several
yacht clubs of Long Island have an-
swered the call to service that there
are no more club meetings except for
the discussion of coast defence. Sev-
eral other clubs will hold their regatta
as usual, but with no award of
silver cups or other prizes, the money
that these would have cost going in-
stead to the Red Cross fund and other
war organizations.

The Sag Harbor Yacht Club is one
of those that stand high in patriotism.
Far up the south shore of the island,
just off Gardiner's Bay, and guarding
a side door entrance to the Atlantic,
old Sag Harbor has gone back to her
Revolutionary task of defending her
coasts. A placid village with spacious
homes and white church spires rising
out of her green trees, there is no hint
of her war-like past upon her face.
But just up the street from the Sag
Harbor Yacht Club is Turkey Hill,
where a fearless little battery stood
in Revolutionary days, to save the vil-
lage from British invasion. And where
the yacht club dock is now, a little,
badly armed boatful of the men of
Sag Harbor struggled with a loaded
battery from the English war boats,
and drove them away. Behind the
dockings of the very spot where the
clubhouse now stands rang out the
shots of the men from the fields and
the women from the kitchens where
they had been getting dinner, till the
British fled, and were glad to flee.

There is a monument on Slate Hill that
tells the story to-day.
So, to one who understands the spirit
of the place, it is not surprising that
the Sag Harbor Yacht Club should
have a solid phalanx of patriots bent
on keeping intact the traditional pa-
triotism of the village. Half a dozen
yachts and motor boats anchored at the
club dock or in the waters of the bay
will impatiently at their moorings,
eager to be at the government service
for which they have offered themselves.
Just as eager to meet wartime emer-
gencies are the hundred members of the
club.

"The government can accept or re-
fuse our yachts just as seems best to
her; we only want to help the country
in every way we can," declared William
S. Eaton, commodore of the club.
"We love this little island of
ours and we want to protect her. Some
of us have travelled pretty much all
over the world, but straight as a needle
to its magnet we always come back
here, and say, 'Well, here's Long Is-
land, the best place for me.' Feeling
that way about it, there is nothing
strange in the fact that our first
thought now is coast defence."

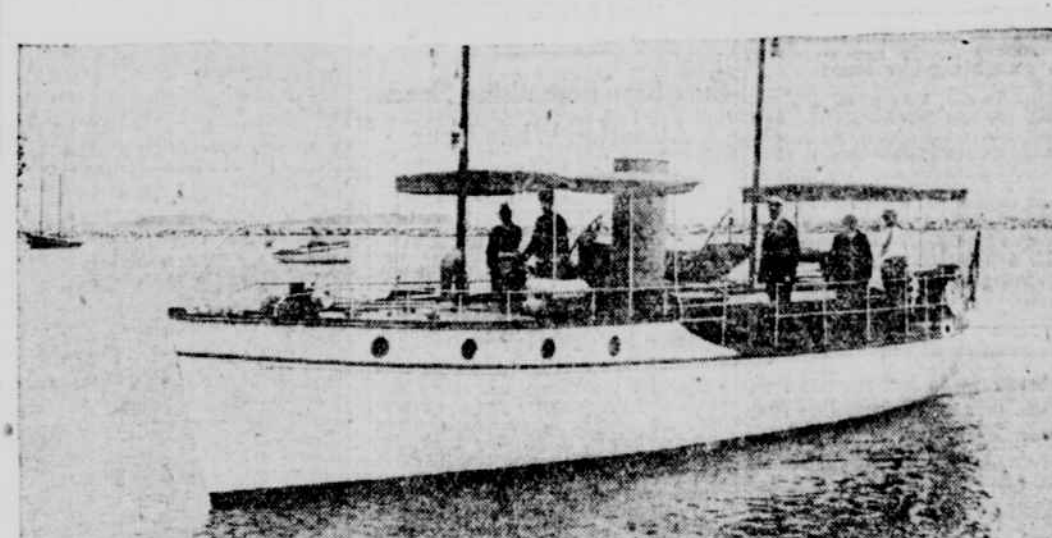
Captain Charles Cook, whose kindly
weather-beaten face is a familiar place
on the navigation chart setting forth his sailing through
the eighty-one years of his life, dur-
ing which, he said, he had come off
the water "only to go to mill and to
do nothing," took up the cudgels for Sag
Harbor.

"Right for her? Sure!" he said.
"There's no other place like this in
the world. It's the unsuitest place
for the healthiest place there is—sta-
tistics show it. You've got to kill a
man to start a graveyard here."

Among the other patriots of the club
are A. Gardner Cooper, whose yacht
has already been accepted by the gov-
ernment, and George L. Haver, of Cal-
ifornia, who gave the land for the club-
house; Ansell H. Ball, of Watertown,
whose boat the Mahwah is do-
tated for government service; Captain
W. F. Kilgore, who at seventy-
five years old has offered him-
self for service; J. Richard Taylor,
vice-commodore; Charles Dwight Na-
pier, rear-commodore; Frank Davis, of
Columbus, Ohio, and Sag Harbor, who
yachts are also in readiness for
service; E. Percy Eaton, secretary-
treasurer of the club; William M.
Cook and William Reiman, of the
members' committee; ex-commodore
David B. Wiggins, Charles Elder, Cap-
tain Charles Hamilton, of the com-
mittee for house and dock service, and
captain James F. Davis, an old sailor
and navigator. Mrs. Annie Cooper
Boyd of Sag Harbor and of Brook-
lyn, who runs her own yacht, is an-
other of the noted members of the
club, and Mrs. James Herman Aldrich,
of New York, and Mrs. E. B. Smith,
other patron of the club. The actors'
colony across from Gardiner's Island
also Robert Edeson and William Far-
num to the list of Sag Harbor's yacht
owners.

Commodore Eaton's own yacht, the
Zar, is among those offered to the gov-
ernment and already inspected. Not
one person on the Zar is lacking in
out dues had been made out, and that
it contained many names.
"It is hardly fair to say definitely
just what proportion of the Seawan-
haka Corinthian Yacht Club is doing
service, since so many of our members
are also members of other organiza-
tions, and since they are enlisting as
individuals and not as members of the
yacht club," said Commodore Smith.
"But the percentage is exceedingly
large." At the time of making the
statement, Commodore Smith was on
his way to Albany, to receive his own
assignment of state service duties.

All through the winter the Seawan-
haka Corinthian Yacht Club, to get
ready for the summer, turned over
the money usually expended upon
silver cups to the local Red Cross. No
definite programme has been arranged
for the summer's activities, due to the
fact that so many men of the club
have offered themselves for service,
and that so many more are of



THE ZAR, COMMODORE
WILLIAM S. EATON'S YACHT
AT SAG HARBOR.

patriotism, from Captain David B.
Bennett at the wheel to Steward W. F.
Rohm, whose strawberry shortcake is
famed among the yacht's guests. They
are as eager as Commodore Eaton to
have the Zar enter government service,
in spite of the fact that it would mean
lack of work to them, as well as lack
of a yacht to him.

One of the largest and most im-
portant yacht clubs of Long Island,
the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club
of Oyster Bay, will hold no regatta
or open races of any kind this year,
because of the members' absorption in
patriotic work. Howard C. Smith,
commodore of the club, said this week
that an absent list permitting those
members of the club who are doing
state or national military or naval ser-
vice three months' membership with-

out dues had been made out, and that
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fact that so many men of the club
have offered themselves for service,
and that so many more are of

draft age. Commodore Louis Smyth,
owner of the two speed boats, the
Hestiation and many silver cups, said
this week that almost as one man the
club holds itself in readiness to offer
itself and its yachts and motor boats
to the government, if necessary.
"The fact that we are holding our
regatta as usual does not mean that
we do not appreciate the gravity of the
present situation," said Commodore
Smyth. "It seems to us, however, that
we will be of more real service to the
country if we continue cheerful and
light-hearted while we are awaiting our
opportunity to be of service. Over-
economy just at this time would be
harmful rather than otherwise to the
nation. We shall go on with the social
activities that centre around the club,
but the money that usually goes for
frivolities will be turned over to the
Red Cross."

Robert S. Haight is vice-commodore

of the Unqua Corinthian Yacht Club;
Clark B. Davis, treasurer; Arthur
Burrows, rear commodore; William F.
Plock, secretary; the board of gov-
ernors includes H. H. Tinkham, Alex-
ander Cork, Charles R. Duryea, George
Schard, Jr., William F. Louder and
William Blake; the entertainment
committee consists of Arthur H.
Burns, George Kreet, A. C. Abernathy,
George Cochran and George Schard, Jr.
A new yacht club, which expects to
combine patriotism with pleasure
has been opened at East Hampton,
with William Thaw as commodore,
Pierre J. Smith as vice-commodore,
Howard Potter, treasurer, and John
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